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ELEMENTARY LAW. By WILLIAM C. ROBINSON, LL. D., Professor of Elementary Law in Yale College. Boston : Little, Brown & Co.

Mr. Robinson's volume on Elementary Law is intended, as he states in the preface, to serve as a text-book for the use of students in law schools, to guide private students in their initial research for legal principles and definitions, and to familiarize students in general with some of the leading treatises on jurisprudence. The author has followed Blackstone's Commentaries in the sub-division of the book and the treatment of the subject. The definitions are given in clear, precise terms, freed from all legal and technical verbiage. Copious references are made to noted writers and commentators, to assist the student in his subsequent investigations. The explanation of the usually difficult subject of Uses on pages 42 and 43 is so lucid that it may be readily understood by the beginner. The work is supplemented by a table of reference and a duplicate index. The definition of conspiracy on page 141 would be more complete if the words "or a lawful act in an unlawful manner" were interposed. With this and a few other minor errors corrected, the work will prove an invaluable aid to students just beginning their legal studies.

P. V. C.

SUMMARY OF TITLE TO PERSONAL PROPERTY. By CHARLES A. GRAVES, Professor of Common Law in Washington and Lee University. Lynchburg, Va. : John P. Bell Company. 1897.

In his little volume of eighty-seven pages, containing three chapters, Professor Graves has given some things in a brief way that may be helpful to both student and practitioner. As suggested in the prefatory note, the volume should be studied in connection with a work of illustrative cases.

While it may be claiming too much to expect that more than two hundred and seventy-five cases should be cited in a treatise of less than one hundred pages, yet it does seem that some portions of the book are well worth being supported by more leading cases—as, for instance, those parts of the volume dealing with gifts *inter vivos* and gifts *causa mortis*. Then, too, it would seem much better to have the dates given of all authorities cited.

One misses any reference to the Statute of Frauds, and the brief mention of title to lost negotiable instruments, stolen chattels and unclaimed goods is hardly satisfactory. However, a careful reading of the seventy-five pages devoted to the three chapters—Title by Original Acquisition, Title by Gift, and Title by Sale—will convince anyone that the author has his subject well in hand, and has clearly said what he intends the reader to get from his book.

W. C. J.